

# Bihamiltonian Structure of the Two-component Kadomtsev-Petviashvili Hierarchy of type B

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## Abstract

We employ a Lax pair representation of the two-component BKP hierarchy and construct its bihamiltonian structure with  $R$ -matrix techniques.

**Key words:** BKP hierarchy, Hamiltonian structure,  $R$ -matrix

## 1 Introduction

The Kadomtsev-Petviashvili (KP) hierarchy of type B (BKP for short) was introduced in [6, 7], and generalized to multi-component cases by Date, Jimbo, Kashiwara, Miwa [4] in the form of bilinear equations. Among these multi-component integrable systems, the two-component BKP hierarchy is of special interest.

In the original definition of the two-component BKP hierarchy, the solution space of tau functions can be regarded as the vacuum orbit in the two-component neutral free fermionic Fock representation of the infinite dimensional Lie algebra  $D_\infty$  [5, 14], which corresponds to the infinite Dynkin diagram of type D [15]. The Lie algebra  $D_\infty$  can be reduced to the affine Lie algebra  $D_n^{(1)}$  under the so-called  $(2n-2, 2)$ -reduction in [5], see also [14, 17]. This reduction reduces the two-component BKP hierarchy to a hierarchy that is equivalent with the Kac-Wakimoto hierarchy corresponding to the principal vertex operator realization of the basic representation of  $D_n^{(1)}$ , the Drinfeld-Sokolov hierarchy associated to the Lie algebra  $D_n^{(1)}$  and the zeroth vertex  $c_0$  of its Dynkin diagram, as well as the Givental-Milanov hierarchy satisfied by the total descendant for the  $D_n$  singularity,

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see [9, 12, 13, 16, 19, 26] and references therein. Such a reduction is analogous to the one that reduces the KP hierarchy to the  $n$ th Gelfand-Dickey hierarchy (see e.g. [8]) that corresponds to the reduction of Lie algebras:  $A_\infty \mapsto A_n^{(1)}$ . So in this sense to compare the two-component BKP hierarchy with the KP hierarchy would deepen our understanding of integrable hierarchies and relevant theories, such as Jacobi/Prym varieties in algebraic geometry and Landau-Ginzburg Models of topological strings, see e.g. [22, 23, 24].

In this article our aim is to study the two-component BKP hierarchy from the view point of Hamiltonian structures. To our best knowledge, this topic has not been considered in the literature, possibly for the reason that the KP-analogue Lax pair representation of the two-component BKP hierarchy was unknown. Recall that the two-component BKP hierarchy was defined to be the bilinear equation of a single tau function:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{res}_z z^{-1} X(\mathbf{t}; z) \tau(\mathbf{t}, \hat{\mathbf{t}}) X(\mathbf{t}'; -z) \tau(\mathbf{t}', \hat{\mathbf{t}}') \\ = \text{res}_z z^{-1} X(\hat{\mathbf{t}}; z) \tau(\mathbf{t}, \hat{\mathbf{t}}) X(\hat{\mathbf{t}}'; -z) \tau(\mathbf{t}', \hat{\mathbf{t}}'), \end{aligned} \quad (1.1)$$

where  $\mathbf{t} = (t_1, t_3, t_5, \dots)$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{t}} = (\hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_3, \hat{t}_5, \dots)$ , and  $X$  is a vertex operator given by

$$X(\mathbf{t}; z) = \exp \left( \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{\text{odd}}} t_k z^k \right) \exp \left( - \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{\text{odd}}} \frac{2}{k} z^k \frac{\partial}{\partial t_k} \right).$$

Here the residue of a Laurent series is taken as  $\text{res}_z (\sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} f_i z^i) = f_{-1}$ . In [22] Shiota proposed a scalar Lax representation of the hierarchy (1.1), though this did not attract much attention as it contains pseudo-differential operators with derivations of two spatial variables. Recently, a Lax pair representation of the two-component BKP hierarchy was found by Liu, Zhang and one of the authors [19]. It was shown that the hierarchy (1.1) can be redefined by certain extension of the following Lax equations (see Section 3 below):

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial t_k} = [(P^k)_+, P], \quad \frac{\partial \hat{P}}{\partial t_k} = [(P^k)_+, \hat{P}], \quad (1.2)$$

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial \hat{t}_k} = [-(\hat{P}^k)_-, P], \quad \frac{\partial \hat{P}}{\partial \hat{t}_k} = [-(\hat{P}^k)_-, \hat{P}] \quad (1.3)$$

with  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{\text{odd}}$ , where

$$P = D + \sum_{i \geq 1} u_i D^{-i}, \quad \hat{P} = D^{-1} \hat{u}_{-1} + \sum_{i \geq 1} \hat{u}_i D^i \text{ with } D = \frac{d}{dx}$$

are pseudo-differential operators such that  $P^* = -DPD^{-1}$ ,  $\hat{P}^* = -D\hat{P}D^{-1}$ . Note that the first equation in (1.2) is just the Lax formulation of the BKP hierarchy appearing in [6]. Our arguments will be based on the Lax pair representation (1.2), (1.3) of the two-component BKP hierarchy.

Observe that the expression (1.2), (1.3) is similar to the Lax pair representation of the two-dimensional Toda hierarchy [25], which carries a tri-Hamiltonian structure [1]. Following the idea of [1], we want to use the  $R$ -matrix theory to construct Hamiltonian structures of the two-component BKP hierarchy (1.2), (1.3).

We are also motivated by the recent work [2], in which Carlet, Dubrovin and Mertens constructed an infinite-dimensional Frobenius manifold underlying the two-dimensional Toda hierarchy. Due to the similarity of the Lax representations mentioned above, we expect that there also exists an infinite dimensional Frobenius manifold that underlies the two-component BKP hierarchy. A hint is that the potential  $F$  (in the notion of [23], namely the dispersionless limit of the logarithm of the tau function, see Section 3 below) of the dispersionless two-component BKP hierarchy was discovered to satisfy certain infinite-dimensional WDVV-type associativity equation [3]. While in the finite-dimensional case, the concept of Frobenius manifolds [10] is known as a geometric description of the WDVV equations, and associated to certain nondegenerate Frobenius manifold there lies a Poisson pencil so that a bihamiltonian hierarchy can be constructed [11]. We hope that this article and follow-up work might help to understand the theory of infinite-dimensional manifolds.

This article is arranged as follows. In next section we recall the definition and some properties of pseudo-differential operators introduced in [19], and in Section 3 we recall the Lax pair representation of the two-component BKP hierarchy. In Sections 4 and 5, an  $R$ -matrix will be used to construct Poisson brackets on an algebra of pseudo-differential operators, and then after appropriate reductions of the Poisson brackets we obtain a bihamiltonian structure of the two-component BKP hierarchy. In Section 6 we compute the dispersionless limit of this bihamiltonian structure. Finally some remarks are given in Section 7.

## 2 Pseudo-differential operators

For preparation we recall the notion of pseudo-differential operators over a ring with certain gradation as introduced in [19].

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a ring, and  $D : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  be a derivation. The algebra of usual

pseudo-differential operators is

$$\mathcal{D}^- = \left\{ \sum_{i < \infty} f_i D^i \mid f_i \in \mathcal{A} \right\}. \quad (2.1)$$

This algebra is topologically complete with a topological basis given by the following filtration:

$$\cdots \subset \mathcal{D}_{(d-1)}^- \subset \mathcal{D}_{(d)}^- \subset \mathcal{D}_{(d+1)}^- \subset \cdots, \quad \mathcal{D}_{(d)}^- = \left\{ \sum_{i \leq d} f_i D^i \mid f_i \in \mathcal{A} \right\},$$

and in this algebra two elements are multiplied as series of the following product of monomials:

$$f D^i \cdot g D^j = \sum_{r \geq 0} \binom{i}{r} f D^r(g) D^{i+j-r}, \quad f, g \in \mathcal{A}. \quad (2.2)$$

Assume there is a gradation on  $\mathcal{A}$  such that

$$\mathcal{A} = \prod_{i \geq 0} \mathcal{A}_i, \quad D : \mathcal{A}_i \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{i+1}, \quad \mathcal{A}_i \cdot \mathcal{A}_j \subset \mathcal{A}_{i+j},$$

and consider the linear space

$$\mathcal{D} = \left\{ \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} f_i D^i \mid f_i \in \mathcal{A} \right\}.$$

Obviously  $\mathcal{D}^- \subset \mathcal{D}$ .

For any  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , denote by  $\mathcal{D}_k$  the set of homogeneous operators with degree  $k$  in  $\mathcal{D}^-$ , i.e.,

$$\mathcal{D}_k = \left\{ \sum_{i \leq k} f_i D^i \mid f_i \in \mathcal{A}_{k-i} \right\}.$$

Let  $\mathcal{D}^+$  be a subspace of  $\mathcal{D}$  that reads

$$\mathcal{D}^+ = \bigcup_{d \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathcal{D}_{(d)}^+, \quad \mathcal{D}_{(d)}^+ = \prod_{k \geq d} \mathcal{D}_k, \quad (2.3)$$

and  $\mathcal{D}^+$  have a topological basis given by the filtration

$$\cdots \supset \mathcal{D}_{(d-1)}^+ \supset \mathcal{D}_{(d)}^+ \supset \mathcal{D}_{(d+1)}^+ \supset \cdots.$$

In fact, every element  $A \in \mathcal{D}^+$  has the following normal expansion [19]

$$A = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} \left( \sum_{j \geq \max\{0, m-i\}} a_{i,j} \right) D^i, \quad a_{i,j} \in \mathcal{A}_j$$

with some integer  $m$ . Note that  $\mathcal{D}_k \cdot \mathcal{D}_l \subset \mathcal{D}_{k+l}$  according to the multiplication defined by (2.2), then this multiplication can be naturally extended to  $\mathcal{D}^+$  such that  $\mathcal{D}^+$  becomes an associative algebra.

**Definition 2.1** ([19]) *Elements of  $\mathcal{D}^-$  (resp.  $\mathcal{D}^+$ ) are called pseudo-differential operators of the first type (resp. the second type) over  $\mathcal{A}$ . The intersection of  $\mathcal{D}^-$  and  $\mathcal{D}^+$  in  $\mathcal{D}$  is denoted by*

$$\mathcal{D}^b = \mathcal{D}^- \cap \mathcal{D}^+,$$

*and its elements are called bounded pseudo-differential operators.*

*Sometimes to indicate the ring  $\mathcal{A}$  and the derivation  $D$ , we will use the notations  $\mathcal{D}^\pm(\mathcal{A}, D)$  instead of  $\mathcal{D}^\pm$ .*

Pseudo-differential operators of the second type have similar properties to those of the operators in  $\mathcal{D}^-$ . For any operator

$$A = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} f_i D^i \in \mathcal{D}^\pm, \quad (2.4)$$

its positive part, negative part, residue and adjoint operator are defined to be respectively

$$A_+ = \sum_{i \geq 0} f_i D^i, \quad A_- = \sum_{i < 0} f_i D^i, \quad (2.5)$$

$$\text{res } A = f_{-1}, \quad A^* = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} (-D)^i \cdot f_i. \quad (2.6)$$

Note that the formulae (2.5) give two projections of  $\mathcal{D}$ , and they induce the following decompositions of spaces

$$\mathcal{D}^\pm = (\mathcal{D}^\pm)_+ \oplus (\mathcal{D}^\pm)_-. \quad (2.7)$$

Particularly one sees that

$$(\mathcal{D}^-)_+ \subset \mathcal{D}^b, \quad (\mathcal{D}^+)_- \subset \mathcal{D}^b. \quad (2.8)$$

An element  $A$  of  $(\mathcal{D}^\pm)_+$  is called a *differential operator*. Let  $A(f)$  denote the action of a differential operator  $A$  on  $f \in \mathcal{A}$ .

Elements of the quotient space  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{A}/(D(\mathcal{A}) \oplus \mathbb{C})$  are called *local functionals*, which are denoted as

$$\int f \, dx = f + D(\mathcal{A}), \quad f \in \mathcal{A}.$$

Introduce a map

$$\langle \rangle : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}, \quad A \mapsto \langle A \rangle = \int \text{res } A \, dx. \quad (2.9)$$

Then the pairing

$$\langle A, B \rangle = \langle AB \rangle \quad (2.10)$$

defines an inner product on each of  $\mathcal{D}^\pm$ .

Given any subspace  $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{D}^\pm$ , we denote by  $\mathcal{S}^*$  the dual space of  $\mathcal{S}$  (c.f. the notation of adjoint operators). Via the above inner product, we have the following identification of dual spaces

$$(\mathcal{D}^\pm)^* = \mathcal{D}^\pm. \quad (2.11)$$

Consider the decompositions (2.7), it is easy to see that

$$((\mathcal{D}^\pm)_\pm)^* = (\mathcal{D}^\pm)_\mp.$$

We also decompose  $\mathcal{D}^\pm$  as

$$\mathcal{D}^\pm = \mathcal{D}_0^\pm \oplus \mathcal{D}_1^\pm, \quad (2.12)$$

where

$$\mathcal{D}_\nu^\pm = \{A \in \mathcal{D}^\pm \mid A^* = (-1)^\nu A\}, \quad \nu = 0, 1.$$

Since  $\langle A \rangle = -\langle A^* \rangle$  for any  $A \in \mathcal{D}^\pm$ , then the dual subspaces of  $\mathcal{D}_\nu^\pm$  read

$$(\mathcal{D}_\nu^\pm)^* = \mathcal{D}_{1-\nu}^\pm, \quad \nu = 0, 1. \quad (2.13)$$

For more details on properties of pseudo-differential operators one can refer to [8, 19].

### 3 The two-component BKP hierarchy

The two types of pseudo-differential operators serve in [19] to give a scalar Lax pair representation of the two-component BKP hierarchy, which is reviewed as follows.

Let  $\tilde{M}$  be an infinite-dimensional manifold with local coordinates

$$(a_1, a_3, a_5, \dots, b_1, b_3, b_5, \dots),$$

and  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  be the algebra of differential polynomials on  $\tilde{M}$ :

$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}} = C^\infty(\tilde{M})[[a_k^{(s)}, b_k^{(s)} \mid k \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{\text{odd}}, s \geq 1]].$$

We assign a gradation on  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  by

$$\deg f = 0 \text{ for } f \in C^\infty(\tilde{M}), \quad \deg a_k^{(s)} = \deg b_k^{(s)} = s$$

which make  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  a topologically complete algebra:

$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}} = \prod_{i \geq 0} \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_i, \quad \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_i \cdot \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_j \subset \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_{i+j}.$$

Note that this gradation is induced from the derivation

$$D : \tilde{\mathcal{A}} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{A}}, \quad D = \sum_{s \geq 0} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{\text{odd}}} \left( a_k^{(s+1)} \frac{\partial}{\partial a_k^{(s)}} + b_k^{(s+1)} \frac{\partial}{\partial b_k^{(s)}} \right)$$

with  $a_k^{(0)} = a_k$ ,  $b_k^{(0)} = b_k$ . So one can define the algebras  $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}^\pm = \mathcal{D}^\pm(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, D)$  of pseudo-differential operators as was done in last section.

Introduce two operators

$$\Phi = 1 + \sum_{i \geq 1} a_i D^{-i} \in \tilde{\mathcal{D}}^-, \quad \Psi = 1 + \sum_{i \geq 1} b_i D^i \in \tilde{\mathcal{D}}^+, \quad (3.1)$$

where  $a_2, a_4, a_6, \dots, b_2, b_4, b_6, \dots \in \tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  are determined by the following conditions

$$\Phi^* = D\Phi^{-1}D^{-1}, \quad \Psi^* = D\Psi^{-1}D^{-1}. \quad (3.2)$$

Then the two-component BKP hierarchy (1.1) can be redefined to be

$$\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial t_k} = -(P^k)_- \Phi, \quad \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t_k} = ((P^k)_+ - \delta_{k1} \hat{P}^{-1}) \Psi, \quad (3.3)$$

$$\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \hat{t}_k} = -(\hat{P}^k)_- \Phi, \quad \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \hat{t}_k} = (\hat{P}^k)_+ \Psi, \quad (3.4)$$

where  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{\text{odd}}$ , and the operators  $P, \hat{P}$  read

$$P = \Phi D \Phi^{-1} \in \tilde{\mathcal{D}}^-, \quad \hat{P} = \Psi D^{-1} \Psi^{-1} \in \tilde{\mathcal{D}}^+. \quad (3.5)$$

The operators  $P, \hat{P}$  have the following expressions:

$$P = D + \sum_{i \geq 1} u_i D^{-i}, \quad \hat{P} = D^{-1} \hat{u}_{-1} + \sum_{i \geq 1} \hat{u}_i D^i, \quad (3.6)$$

with  $\hat{u}_{-1} = (\Psi^{-1})^*(1)$ , and they satisfy

$$P^* = -D P D^{-1}, \quad \hat{P}^* = -D \hat{P} D^{-1}, \quad (3.7)$$

which implies

$$(P^k)_+(1) = 0, \quad (\hat{P}^k)_+(1) = 0, \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{\text{odd}}. \quad (3.8)$$

Observe that the coefficients of  $P$  and  $\hat{P}$  are elements of the algebra  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ , and among these coefficients the ones with odd subscript are independent, while the others are determined by the conditions (3.7). Assume that

$$\mathbf{u} = (u_1, u_3, \dots, \hat{u}_{-1}, \hat{u}_1, \hat{u}_3, \dots) \quad (3.9)$$

serves as a coordinate of some infinite-dimensional manifold  $M$ , then the algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  of differential polynomials on  $M$  reads

$$\mathcal{A} = C^\infty(M)[[\mathbf{u}^{(s)} \mid s \geq 1]],$$

which is a subalgebra of  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ . Similarly as above, one can assign a gradation to  $\mathcal{A}$  that is induced from the derivation

$$D : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}, \quad D = \sum_{s \geq 0} \mathbf{u}^{(s+1)} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{u}^{(s)}}$$

with  $\mathbf{u}^{(0)} = \mathbf{u}$ , and then define the algebras  $\mathcal{D}^\pm = \mathcal{D}^\pm(\mathcal{A}, D)$  of pseudo-differential operators over  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Clearly  $P \in \mathcal{D}^-$ ,  $\hat{P} \in \mathcal{D}^+$ . When the two-component BKP hierarchy (3.3), (3.4) is restricted from  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ , it becomes

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial t_k} = [(P^k)_+, P], \quad \frac{\partial \hat{P}}{\partial t_k} = [(\hat{P}^k)_+, \hat{P}], \quad (3.10)$$

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial \hat{t}_k} = [-(\hat{P}^k)_-, P], \quad \frac{\partial \hat{P}}{\partial \hat{t}_k} = [-(\hat{P}^k)_-, \hat{P}] \quad (3.11)$$

with  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{\text{odd}}$ . In the present article we regard the two-component BKP hierarchy as the evolutionary equations (3.10), (3.11) defined on the algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ .

In fact, the hierarchy (3.10), (3.11) possesses a tau function  $\tau = \tau(\mathbf{t}, \hat{\mathbf{t}})$  defined by

$$\omega = d(2 \partial_x \log \tau) \quad \text{with} \quad x = t_1, \quad (3.12)$$

where  $\omega$  is the following closed 1-form:

$$\omega = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{\text{odd}}} (\text{res } P^k dt_k + \text{res } \hat{P}^k d\hat{t}_k).$$

This tau function solves the bilinear equation (1.1), which is the original definition of the two-component BKP hierarchy.

**Remark 3.1** The dispersionless limit of the flows (3.10), (3.11) first exists in [23], where Takasiki also considered the dispersionless limit of the logarithm of the tau function as given in (3.12). Inspired by [23], Chen and Tu [3] discovered that the leading term of  $\log \tau$  solves an infinite-dimensional associativity equation of WDVV type.



## 4 $R$ -matrix and pseudo-differential operators

To show that the two-component BKP hierarchy (3.10), (3.11) possesses a bihamiltonian structure, we need to construct a Poisson pencil for it. The method is to use the standard  $R$ -matrix theory and introduce Poisson brackets on a Lie algebra (see [21, 18, 20] and references therein), then restrict the Poisson brackets to certain submanifold of the Lie algebra. Our approach is similar with that used by Carlet [1] for the two-dimensional Toda hierarchy.

We first recall the  $R$ -matrix formalism. Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a Lie algebra, and  $R : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  be a linear transformation. Then  $R$  is called an  $R$ -matrix [21] on  $\mathfrak{g}$  if it defines a Lie bracket by

$$[X, Y]_R = [R(X), Y] + [X, R(Y)], \quad X, Y \in \mathfrak{g}. \quad (4.1)$$

A sufficient condition for a transformation  $R$  being an  $R$ -matrix is that  $R$  solves the modified Yang-Baxter equation [21]

$$[R(X), R(Y)] - R([X, Y]_R) = -[X, Y] \quad (4.2)$$

for all  $X, Y \in \mathfrak{g}$ .

Assume that  $\mathfrak{g}$  is an associative algebra, with the Lie bracket defined naturally by commutators, and there is a map  $\langle \cdot \rangle : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  that defines a non-degenerate symmetric invariant bilinear form (inner product)  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  by

$$\langle X, Y \rangle = \langle XY \rangle = \langle YX \rangle, \quad X, Y \in \mathfrak{g}.$$

Via this inner product one can identify  $\mathfrak{g}$  with its dual space  $\mathfrak{g}^*$ . The tangent and the cotangent bundles of  $\mathfrak{g}$  are denoted by  $T\mathfrak{g}$  and  $T^*\mathfrak{g}$  respectively, with fibers  $T_A\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}$  and  $T_A^*\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}^*$  at every point  $A \in \mathfrak{g}$ .

Let  $R^*$  be the adjoint transformation of  $R$  with respect to the above inner product. We introduce the notations of the symmetric and the anti-symmetric parts of  $R$  respectively as

$$R_s = \frac{1}{2}(R + R^*), \quad R_a = \frac{1}{2}(R - R^*).$$

The  $R$ -matrix formalism is briefly stated as follows. Given an  $R$ -matrix  $R : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  that satisfies certain conditions, there define three compatible Poisson brackets on  $\mathfrak{g}$ , say, the linear, the quadratic and the cubic brackets in the notion of [18, 20].

In particular, let us recall the quadratic bracket, which will be used to construct a Poisson pencil for the two-component BKP hierarchy.

**Lemma 4.1** ([18, 20]) *Let  $f, g$  be two arbitrary smooth functions on  $\mathfrak{g}$ , and  $\nabla f, \nabla g \in T_A^*\mathfrak{g}$  be their gradients at any point  $A \in \mathfrak{g}$ . Given a linear*

transformation  $R : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$ , if both  $R$  and its anti-symmetric part  $R_a$  satisfy the modified Yang-Baxter equation (4.2), then the quadratic bracket

$$\{f, g\}(A) = \frac{1}{4}(\langle [A, \nabla f], R(A\nabla g + \nabla g \cdot A) \rangle - \langle [A, \nabla g], R(A\nabla f + \nabla f \cdot A) \rangle) \quad (4.3)$$

defines a Poisson bracket on  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

Note that the bracket (4.3) can be rewritten as

$$\{f, g\}(A) = \langle \nabla f, \mathcal{P}_A(\nabla g) \rangle,$$

where  $\mathcal{P} : T^*\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow T\mathfrak{g}$  is a Poisson tensor given by

$$\mathcal{P}_A(\nabla g) = -\frac{1}{4}[A, R(A\nabla g + \nabla g \cdot A)] - \frac{1}{4}AR^*([A, \nabla g]) - \frac{1}{4}R^*([A, \nabla g])A,$$

namely,

$$\mathcal{P}_A(\nabla g) = -\frac{1}{2}A(R_s(A\nabla g) + R_a(\nabla g \cdot A)) + \frac{1}{2}(R_a(A\nabla g) + R_s(\nabla g \cdot A))A. \quad (4.4)$$

Henceforth we take  $\mathfrak{g}$  to be the algebra

$$\mathfrak{D} = \mathcal{D}^- \times \mathcal{D}^+,$$

where  $\mathcal{D}^-$  and  $\mathcal{D}^+$  are the sets of pseudo-differential operators of the first type and the second type over some differential algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  as defined in Section 2. In  $\mathfrak{D}$  the elements read  $\mathbf{X} = (X, \hat{X})$ , and the operations are defined diagonally as

$$(X, \hat{X}) + (Y, \hat{Y}) = (X + Y, \hat{X} + \hat{Y}), \quad (X, \hat{X})(Y, \hat{Y}) = (XY, \hat{X}\hat{Y}).$$

So  $\mathfrak{D}$  is indeed an associative algebra. Moreover, the algebra  $\mathfrak{D}$  is equipped with an inner product define by

$$\langle (X, \hat{X}), (Y, \hat{Y}) \rangle = \langle (X, \hat{X})(Y, \hat{Y}) \rangle = \langle XY, Y \rangle + \langle \hat{X}, \hat{Y} \rangle,$$

see (2.9), (2.10). Via this inner product we have the identification of dual spaces as above:

$$\mathfrak{D}^* = (\mathcal{D}^-)^* \times (\mathcal{D}^+)^* = \mathcal{D}^- \times \mathcal{D}^+ = \mathfrak{D}.$$

Inspired by [1], we introduce a linear transformation of  $\mathfrak{D}$  as follows

$$R : \mathfrak{D} \rightarrow \mathfrak{D}, \quad (X, \hat{X}) \mapsto (X_+ - X_- + 2\hat{X}_-, \hat{X}_- - \hat{X}_+ + 2X_+). \quad (4.5)$$

Since  $R = \Pi - \tilde{\Pi}$ , where

$$\Pi(X, \hat{X}) = (X_+ + \hat{X}_-, \hat{X}_- + X_+), \quad \tilde{\Pi}(X, \hat{X}) = (X_- - \hat{X}_-, \hat{X}_+ - X_+)$$

are two projections of  $\mathfrak{D}$  onto its subalgebras, more exactly,

$$\begin{aligned}\Pi\mathfrak{D} &= \{(X, X) \mid X \in \mathcal{D}^b\}, \quad \tilde{\Pi}\mathfrak{D} = (\mathcal{D}^-)_- \times (\mathcal{D}^+)_+, \\ \Pi^2 &= \Pi, \quad \tilde{\Pi}^2 = \tilde{\Pi}, \quad \tilde{\Pi}\Pi = 0 = \Pi\tilde{\Pi}, \quad \Pi + \tilde{\Pi} = \text{id},\end{aligned}$$

then transformation  $R$  satisfies the modified Yang-Baxter equation (4.2). Hence  $R$  is an  $R$ -matrix on  $\mathfrak{D}$ .

On the other hand, with respect to the inner product on  $\mathfrak{D}$  the adjoint transformation of  $R$  reads

$$R^* : \mathfrak{D} \rightarrow \mathfrak{D}, \quad (X, \hat{X}) \mapsto (X_- - X_+ + 2\hat{X}_-, \hat{X}_+ - \hat{X}_- + 2X_+).$$

Then the symmetric and anti-symmetric parts of  $R$  are given by

$$R_s(X, \hat{X}) = 2(\hat{X}_-, X_+), \quad R_a(X, \hat{X}) = (X_+ - X_-, \hat{X}_- - \hat{X}_+). \quad (4.6)$$

Observe that  $R_a$  can be expressed as the difference of two projections onto subalgebras of  $\mathfrak{D}$ , hence  $R_a$  also solves the Yang-Baxter equation (4.2). Thus the  $R$ -matrix given in (4.5) fulfills the condition of Lemma 4.1.

We regard  $\mathfrak{D}$  as an infinite-dimensional manifold, whose coordinate is given by the coefficients of the general expression of its elements

$$\mathbf{A} = \left( \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} w_i D^i, \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} \hat{w}_i D^i \right) \in \mathfrak{D}. \quad (4.7)$$

The set  $\mathcal{F}$  of local functionals over the differential algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  (see Section 2) plays the role of  $C^\infty(\mathfrak{g})$ . For any  $F = \int f \, dx \in \mathcal{F}$ , the variational gradient of  $F$  at  $\mathbf{A}$  given in (4.7) is defined to be

$$\frac{\delta F}{\delta \mathbf{A}} = \left( \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} D^{-i-1} \frac{\delta F}{\delta w_i(x)}, \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} D^{-i-1} \frac{\delta F}{\delta \hat{w}_i(x)} \right),$$

where  $\delta F / \delta w(x) = \sum_{j \geq 0} (-D)^j (\partial f / \partial w^{(j)})$ . Note that  $\delta F / \delta \mathbf{A}$  is not contained in  $\mathfrak{D}^* = \mathfrak{D}$  in general, so to go forward we need to do some restriction.

It shall be indicated that, in this paper we only consider functionals with variational gradients lying in  $\mathfrak{D}$ . Let  $\mathcal{F}_0$  denote the set of such functionals.

Now we can use Lemma 4.1 and the formulae (4.4), (4.6) to obtain the following result.

**Lemma 4.2** *Let  $F$  and  $G$  be two arbitrary functionals in  $\mathcal{F}_0$ . On the algebra  $\mathfrak{D}$  there is a quadratic Poisson bracket*

$$\{F, G\}(\mathbf{A}) = \left\langle \frac{\delta F}{\delta \mathbf{A}}, \mathcal{P}_{\mathbf{A}} \left( \frac{\delta G}{\delta \mathbf{A}} \right) \right\rangle, \quad \mathbf{A} = (A, \hat{A}) \in \mathfrak{D}, \quad (4.8)$$

where the Poisson tensor  $\mathcal{P} : T\mathfrak{D}^* \rightarrow T\mathfrak{D}$  is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}_{(A, \hat{A})}(X, \hat{X}) = & (A(XA)_- - (AX)_-A - A(\hat{A}\hat{X})_- + (\hat{X}\hat{A})_-A, \\ & \hat{A}(\hat{X}\hat{A})_+ - (\hat{A}\hat{X})_+\hat{A} - \hat{A}(AX)_+ + (XA)_+\hat{A}). \end{aligned} \quad (4.9)$$

Aiming at Hamiltonian structures of the two-component BKP hierarchy, we need to reduce the Poisson structure (4.9) to an appropriate submanifold of  $\mathfrak{D}$ . Recall the decompositions (2.12), let us decompose the space  $\mathfrak{D}$  as

$$\mathfrak{D} = \mathfrak{D}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{D}_1, \quad (4.10)$$

where  $\mathfrak{D}_\nu = \mathcal{D}_\nu^- \times \mathcal{D}_\nu^+$  for  $\nu = 0, 1$ . Since the subspaces  $\mathfrak{D}_0$  and  $\mathfrak{D}_1$  are dual to each other with respect to the inner product on  $\mathfrak{D}$ , then for any  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathfrak{D}_\nu$  we have  $T_{\mathbf{A}}^*\mathfrak{D}_\nu = (\mathfrak{D}_\nu)^* = \mathfrak{D}_{1-\nu}$  for  $\nu = 0, 1$ . It is straightforward to verify the following lemma.

**Lemma 4.3** *The Poisson structure (4.9) on  $\mathfrak{D}$  can be properly restricted to each of its subspaces  $\mathfrak{D}_0$  and  $\mathfrak{D}_1$ .*

## 5 Bihamiltonian representation of the two-component BKP hierarchy

In this section, we are to find a submanifold of  $\mathfrak{D}$  where the Poisson pencil for the two-component BKP hierarchy lies, then after a further reduction of the Poisson structure constructed in last section we will express the hierarchy (3.10), (3.11) to the form of Hamiltonian equations.

Recall the operators  $P \in \mathcal{D}^-$ ,  $\hat{P} \in \mathcal{D}^+$  given in (3.5), we let

$$\mathbf{A} = (P^2D^{-1}, D\hat{P}^2). \quad (5.1)$$

It is easy to see that  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathfrak{D}_1$  (see (4.10)), and  $\mathbf{A} = (A, \hat{A})$  has the following expression:

$$A = P^2D^{-1} = D + \sum_{i \geq 0} (v_{-i}D^{-2i-1} + f_{-i}D^{-2i-2}), \quad (5.2)$$

$$\hat{A} = D\hat{P}^2 = \rho D^{-1}\rho + \sum_{i \geq 1} (\hat{v}_iD^{2i-1} + \hat{f}_iD^{2i-2}), \quad \rho = \hat{u}_{-1}. \quad (5.3)$$

Denote  $\mathbf{v} = (v_0, v_{-1}, \dots, \hat{v}_0, \hat{v}_1, \dots)$  with  $\hat{v}_0 = \rho^2$ . Then the coordinate  $\mathbf{v}$  is related to  $\mathbf{u}$  given in (3.9) by a Miura-type transformation, while  $f_{-i}$  and  $\hat{f}_i$  are linear functions of derivatives of  $\mathbf{v}$  determined by the symmetry property  $(A^*, \hat{A}^*) = -(A, \hat{A})$ . Hence the flows of the hierarchy (3.10), (3.11) can be described in the coordinate  $\mathbf{v}$ .

Given any local functional  $F \in \mathcal{F}_0$  (remind the notation  $\mathcal{F}_0$  in last section), its variational gradient with respect to  $\mathbf{A}$ , say  $\delta F/\delta \mathbf{A}$ , is defined to be  $\mathbf{X} = (X, \hat{X}) \in \mathfrak{D}$  with

$$X = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \geq 0} \left( \frac{\delta F}{\delta v_{-i}(x)} D^{2i} + D^{2i} \frac{\delta F}{\delta v_{-i}(x)} \right), \quad (5.4)$$

$$\hat{X} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \geq 0} \left( \frac{\delta F}{\delta \hat{v}_i(x)} D^{-2i} + D^{-2i} \frac{\delta F}{\delta \hat{v}_i(x)} \right). \quad (5.5)$$

In a coordinate-free way,  $\delta F/\delta \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{X}$  can be defined by

$$\delta F = \langle \mathbf{X}, \delta \mathbf{A} \rangle, \quad \mathbf{X} \in \mathfrak{D}_0. \quad (5.6)$$

Note that in the latter definition, the variational gradient is determined up to a kernel part  $\mathbf{Z} = (Z, \hat{Z}) \in \mathfrak{D}_0$  such that

$$Z_+ = 0, \quad \hat{Z}_- = 0, \quad \hat{Z}_+(\rho) = 0. \quad (5.7)$$

Let us consider the coset  $(D, 0) + \mathcal{U}$  consisting of operators of the form (5.1), namely,

$$\mathcal{U} = (\mathcal{D}_1^-)_- \times ((\mathcal{D}_1^+)_+ \times \mathcal{M}), \quad \mathcal{M} = \{\rho D^{-1} \rho \mid \rho \in \mathcal{A}\}. \quad (5.8)$$

Here  $\mathcal{M}$  is regarded as a 1-dimensional manifold with coordinate  $\rho$ , and this manifold has tangent spaces of the form

$$T_\rho \mathcal{M} = \{\rho D^{-1} f + f D^{-1} \rho \mid f \in \mathcal{A}\}.$$

So the tangent bundle, denoted by  $T\mathcal{U}$ , of the coset  $(D, 0) + \mathcal{U}$  has fibers

$$T_{\mathbf{A}} \mathcal{U} = (\mathcal{D}_1^-)_- \times ((\mathcal{D}_1^+)_+ \times T_\rho \mathcal{M}), \quad \mathbf{A} \in (D, 0) + \mathcal{U}, \quad (5.9)$$

while the cotangent bundle  $T^* \mathcal{U}$  of  $(D, 0) + \mathcal{U}$  is composed of

$$T_{\mathbf{A}}^* \mathcal{U} = (\mathcal{D}_0^-)_+ \times ((\mathcal{D}_0^+)_- \times T_\rho^* \mathcal{M}), \quad T_\rho^* \mathcal{M} = \mathcal{A}. \quad (5.10)$$

From (5.4), (5.5) one sees that  $\delta F/\delta \mathbf{A} \in T_{\mathbf{A}}^* \mathcal{U}$  for any  $F \in \mathcal{F}_0$ .

Now we are ready to do the desired reduction of the Poisson structure.

**Lemma 5.1** *The map*

$$\mathcal{P} : T^* \mathcal{U} \rightarrow T\mathcal{U} \quad (5.11)$$

*defined by the formula (4.9) is a Poisson tensor on the coset  $(D, 0) + \mathcal{U}$  that consists of operators of the form (5.1).*

*Proof.* We only need to show that the map defined by (4.9) admits the restriction to the coset  $(D, 0) + \mathcal{U}$ , i.e., the following map is well defined:

$$\mathcal{P}_{\mathbf{A}} : T_{\mathbf{A}}^* \mathcal{U} \rightarrow T_{\mathbf{A}} \mathcal{U}, \quad \mathbf{A} \in (D, 0) + \mathcal{U}. \quad (5.12)$$

Assume  $\mathbf{X} = (X, \hat{X}) \in T_{\mathbf{A}}^* \mathcal{U} \subset \mathfrak{D}_0$ . It follows from Lemma 4.3 that  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathbf{A}}(X) \in \mathfrak{D}_1$ . More precisely, the first component of  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathbf{A}}(X)$  belongs to  $(\mathcal{D}_1^-)_-$ . On the other hand, for any  $\hat{Y} \in (\mathcal{D}^+)_+$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\hat{A}\hat{Y} + \hat{Y}^*\hat{A})_- &= (\rho D^{-1} \rho \hat{Y} + \hat{Y}^* \rho D^{-1} \rho)_- \\ &= -(\hat{Y}^* \rho D^{-1} \rho)_-^* + \hat{Y}^*(\rho) D^{-1} \rho \\ &= \rho D^{-1} \hat{Y}^*(\rho) + \hat{Y}^*(\rho) D^{-1} \rho \in T_{\rho} \mathcal{M}, \end{aligned}$$

then by taking  $\hat{Y} = (\hat{X}\hat{A})_+, (AX)_+$  it follows that the second component of  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathbf{A}}(\mathbf{X})$  lies in  $(\mathcal{D}_1^+)_+ \times T_{\rho} \mathcal{M}$ . Thus  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathbf{A}}(\mathbf{X}) \in T_{\mathbf{A}} \mathcal{U}$ , i.e., the map (5.12) is well defined. The lemma is proved.  $\square$

**Remark 5.2** The proof of this lemma is the simplest case of the Dirac reduction procedure for Poisson tensors, see e.g. [20]. In fact, one can express the manifolds  $\mathfrak{D}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{D}_1^*$  as

$$\mathfrak{D}_1 = \mathcal{U} \times \mathcal{V} = T_{\mathbf{A}} \mathcal{U} \times \mathcal{V}_{\mathbf{A}}, \quad \mathfrak{D}_1^* = \mathfrak{D}_0 = T_{\mathbf{A}}^* \mathcal{U} \times \mathcal{V}_{\mathbf{A}}^*, \quad (5.13)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{V} &= \mathcal{V}_{\mathbf{A}} = (\mathcal{D}_1^-)_+ \times \mathcal{N}, \quad \mathcal{N} = \{X \in (\mathcal{D}_1^+)_- \mid \text{res} X = 0\}, \\ \mathcal{V}_{\mathbf{A}}^* &= (\mathcal{D}_0^-)_- \times (T_{\rho}^*)^{\perp} \mathcal{M}, \quad (T_{\rho}^*)^{\perp} \mathcal{M} = \{\hat{Y} \in (\mathcal{D}_0^+)_+ \mid \hat{Y}(\rho) = 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

Similar as the proof of Lemma 5.1, one can show that the map

$$\mathcal{P}_{\mathbf{A}} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{P}_{\mathbf{A}}^{\mathcal{U}\mathcal{U}} & \mathcal{P}_{\mathbf{A}}^{\mathcal{U}\mathcal{V}} \\ \mathcal{P}_{\mathbf{A}}^{\mathcal{V}\mathcal{U}} & \mathcal{P}_{\mathbf{A}}^{\mathcal{V}\mathcal{V}} \end{pmatrix} : T_{\mathbf{A}}^* \mathcal{U} \times \mathcal{V}_{\mathbf{A}}^* \rightarrow T_{\mathbf{A}} \mathcal{U} \times \mathcal{V}_{\mathbf{A}}$$

defined by (4.9) is diagonal. Hence from Lemma 4.3 it follows that the map (4.9) gives a Poisson tensor on the coset  $(D, 0) + \mathcal{U} \subset \mathfrak{D}_1$ .

**Lemma 5.3** *On the coset  $(D, 0) + \mathcal{U}$  there are two compatible Poisson tensors defined by the following formulae:*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}_1(X, \hat{X}) &= (A(XD^{-1})_- + D^{-1}(XA)_- - (D^{-1}X)_- A - (AX)_- D^{-1} \\ &\quad - A(D\hat{X})_- - D^{-1}(\hat{A}\hat{X})_- + (\hat{X}D)_- A + (\hat{X}\hat{A})_- D^{-1}, \\ &\quad \hat{A}(\hat{X}D)_+ + D(\hat{X}\hat{A})_+ - (D\hat{X})_+ \hat{A} - (\hat{A}\hat{X})_+ D \\ &\quad - \hat{A}(D^{-1}X)_+ - D(AX)_+ + (XD^{-1})_+ \hat{A} + (XA)_+ D), \end{aligned} \quad (5.14)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{P}_2(X, \hat{X}) = & (A(XA)_- - (AX)_-A - A(\hat{A}\hat{X})_- + (\hat{X}\hat{A})_-A, \\ & \hat{A}(\hat{X}\hat{A})_+ - (\hat{A}\hat{X})_+\hat{A} - \hat{A}(AX)_+ + (XA)_+\hat{A})\end{aligned}\quad (5.15)$$

with  $(X, \hat{X}) \in T_{\mathbf{A}}^*\mathcal{U}$  at any point  $\mathbf{A} = (A, \hat{A}) \in (D, 0) + \mathcal{U}$ .

*Proof.* Lemma 5.1 shows that  $\mathcal{P}_2$  is a Poisson tensor on the coset  $(D, 0) + \mathcal{U}$ .

Introduce a shift transformation on  $(D, 0) + \mathcal{U}$  as

$$\mathcal{S} : (A, \hat{A}) \mapsto (A + sD^{-1}, \hat{A} + sD)$$

with  $s$  being a parameter. Then the push-forward of the Poisson tensor  $\mathcal{P}_2$  reads

$$(\mathcal{S}_*\mathcal{P}_2)(X, \hat{X}) = \mathcal{P}_2(X, \hat{X}) + s\mathcal{P}_1(X, \hat{X}) + s^2\mathcal{P}_0(X, \hat{X}), \quad (5.16)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{P}_0(X, \hat{X}) = & (D^{-1}(XD^{-1})_- - (D^{-1}X)_-D^{-1} - D^{-1}(D\hat{X})_- + (\hat{X}D)_-D^{-1}, \\ & D(\hat{X}D)_+ - (D\hat{X})_+D - D(D^{-1}X)_+ + (XD^{-1})_+D).\end{aligned}$$

By virtue of the symmetry property  $(X^*, \hat{X}^*) = (X, \hat{X})$  that yields the formulae

$$\begin{aligned}(XD^{-1})_{\pm} &= X_{\pm}D^{-1} \mp X_{\pm}(1)D^{-1}, \\ (D^{-1}X)_{\pm} &= D^{-1}X_{\pm} \mp D^{-1} \cdot X_{\pm}(1), \\ (D\hat{X})_{\pm} &= D\hat{X}_{\pm}, \quad (\hat{X}D)_{\pm} = \hat{X}_{\pm}D,\end{aligned}$$

one can check  $\mathcal{P}_0(X, \hat{X}) = 0$ . Hence the expansion (5.16) implies that  $\mathcal{P}_1$  is a Poisson tensor that is compatible with  $\mathcal{P}_2$ . The lemma is proved.  $\square$

Let  $\{\cdot, \cdot\}_{1,2}$  denote the Poisson brackets given in (4.8) with Poisson tensors being  $\mathcal{P}_{1,2}$  respectively. We arrive at the main result of this article.

**Theorem 5.4** *The two-component BKP hierarchy (3.10), (3.11) can be expressed in the following bihamiltonian recursion form*

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial t_k} = \{F, H_{k+2}\}_1(\mathbf{A}) = \{F, H_k\}_2(\mathbf{A}), \quad (5.17)$$

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \hat{t}_k} = \{F, \hat{H}_{k+2}\}_1(\mathbf{A}) = \{F, \hat{H}_k\}_2(\mathbf{A}) \quad (5.18)$$

with  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{\text{odd}}$ , where  $F \in \mathcal{F}_0$ ,  $\mathbf{A} = (P^2D^{-1}, D\hat{P}^2)$  as given in (5.1), and the Hamiltonians are

$$H_k = \frac{2}{k}\langle P^k \rangle, \quad \hat{H}_k = -\frac{2}{k}\langle \hat{P}^k \rangle, \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{\text{odd}}. \quad (5.19)$$

*Proof.* First let us compute the variational gradients of the Hamiltonian functionals. Since

$$\delta H_k = \langle P^{k-2}, \delta P^2 \rangle = \langle DP^{k-2}, \delta(P^2 D^{-1}) \rangle = \langle (DP^{k-2}, 0), \delta \mathbf{A} \rangle$$

and similarly

$$\delta \hat{H}_k = \langle (0, -\hat{P}^{k-2} D^{-1}), \delta \mathbf{A} \rangle,$$

then up to kernel parts given in (5.7) we have the variational gradients of the Hamiltonians:

$$\frac{\delta H_k}{\delta \mathbf{A}} = (DP^{k-2}, 0), \quad \frac{\delta \hat{H}_k}{\delta \mathbf{A}} = (0, -\hat{P}^{k-2} D^{-1}) \quad (5.20)$$

One can easily see that different choices of the kernel parts do not change the definition of the Poisson tensors  $\mathcal{P}_{1,2}$ .

According to the flows (3.10), (3.11) one has

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t_k} = \left( [(P^k)_+, P^2] D^{-1}, D[(P^k)_+, \hat{P}^2] \right).$$

Note that

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial t_k} = \left\langle \frac{\delta F}{\delta \mathbf{A}}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t_k} \right\rangle,$$

then to show (5.17) we only need to verify the equations

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t_k} = \mathcal{P}_1 \left( \frac{\delta H_{k+2}}{\delta \mathbf{A}} \right) = \mathcal{P}_2 \left( \frac{\delta H_k}{\delta \mathbf{A}} \right). \quad (5.21)$$

The verification is straightforward by substituting (5.20) into (5.14), (5.15) with the help of the following formulae induced from (3.8):

$$(DP^k D^{-1})_{\pm} = D(P^k)_{\pm} D^{-1}, \quad (D\hat{P}^k D^{-1})_{\pm} = D(\hat{P}^k)_{\pm} D^{-1}, \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{\text{odd}}.$$

The equations (5.18) can be checked similarly. The theorem is proved.  $\square$

This theorem implies that the tau function (3.12) of the two-component BKP hierarchy is defined from the tau-symmetry of Hamiltonian densities [11] (up to the signs of  $\hat{H}_k$ ).

**Remark 5.5** One can also construct Hamiltonian structures of the two-component BKP hierarchy by reducing the linear and the cubic Poisson brackets induced from the  $R$ -matrix mentioned in last section. However, from these brackets we have not found bihamiltonian recursion relations like (5.17), (5.18).



## 6 Dispersionless limit of the bihamiltonian structure

Let us compute the leading term of the bihamiltonian structure in (5.17), (5.18) of the two-component BKP hierarchy, which would make sense in studying the corresponding Frobenius manifold if there be.

First we replace the pseudo-differential operators by Laurent series of symbols. In the dispersionless case, the operator  $\mathbf{A} = (P^2 D^{-1}, D\hat{P}^2)$  becomes

$$(a(z), \hat{a}(z)) = \left( z + \sum_{i \geq 0} v_{-i} z^{-2i-1}, \sum_{i \geq 0} \hat{v}_i z^{2i-1} \right), \quad (6.1)$$

and the coordinate-type local functionals  $v_{-i}(y)$ ,  $\hat{v}_j(y)$  have variational gradients  $(z^{2i} \delta(x-y), 0)$ ,  $(0, z^{-2j} \delta(x-y))$  respectively. Substituting these Laurent series into the Poisson brackets defined by the formulae (4.8), (5.14), (5.15), we obtain the following result.

For the convenience of expression we set  $v_1 = 1$ ,  $v_i = 0$  when  $i \geq 2$ , and  $\hat{v}_j = 0$  when  $j \leq -1$ .

i) The first bracket: for  $i, j \geq 0$ ,

$$\{v_{-i}(x), v_{-j}(y)\}_1^{[0]} = (1 - \delta_{i0} - \delta_{j0}) (2(i+j-1) v_{-i-j+1}(x) \delta'(x-y) + (2j-1) v'_{-i-j+1}(x) \delta(x-y)), \quad (6.2)$$

$$\{\hat{v}_i(x), \hat{v}_j(y)\}_1^{[0]} = -(1 - \delta_{i0} - \delta_{j0}) (2(i+j-1) \hat{v}_{i+j}(x) \delta'(x-y) + (2j-1) \hat{v}'_{i+j}(x) \delta(x-y)), \quad (6.3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \{v_{-i}(x), \hat{v}_j(y)\}_1^{[0]} &= 2(i-j) ((1 - \delta_{j0}) v_{j-i}(x) + (1 - \delta_{i0}) \hat{v}_{j-i+1}(x)) \delta'(x-y) \\ &\quad - (2j-1) ((1 - \delta_{j0}) v'_{j-i}(x) + (1 - \delta_{i0}) \hat{v}'_{j-i+1}(x)) \delta(x-y). \end{aligned} \quad (6.4)$$

ii) The second bracket: for  $i, j \geq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \{v_{-i}(x), v_{-j}(y)\}_2^{[0]} &= \sum_{r=-1}^{i-1} \left( 2(i+j-2r-1) v_{-r}(x) v_{-i-j+r+1}(x) \delta'(x-y) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (2j-2r-1) v_{-r}(x) v'_{-i-j+r+1}(x) \delta(x-y) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (2i-2r-1) v'_{-r}(x) v_{-i-j+r+1}(x) \delta(x-y) \right), \end{aligned} \quad (6.5)$$

$$\{\hat{v}_i(x), \hat{v}_j(y)\}_2^{[0]} = - \sum_{r=0}^i \left( 2(i+j-2r+1) \hat{v}_r(x) \hat{v}_{i+j-r+1}(x) \delta'(x-y) \right.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + (2j - 2r + 1) \hat{v}_r(x) \hat{v}'_{i+j-r+1}(x) \delta(x - y) \\
& + (2i - 2r + 1) \hat{v}'_r(x) \hat{v}_{i+j-r+1}(x) \delta(x - y) \Big), \tag{6.6} \\
& \{v_{-i}(x), \hat{v}_j(y)\}_2^{[0]} \\
& = \sum_{r=\max\{-1, i-j-1\}}^{i-1} \Big( 2(i-j) v_{-r}(x) \hat{v}_{-i+j+r+1}(x) \delta'(x-y) \\
& + (2r - 2j + 1) v_{-r}(x) \hat{v}'_{-i+j+r+1}(x) \delta(x-y) \\
& + (2r - 2i + 1) v'_{-r}(x) \hat{v}_{-i+j+r+1}(x) \delta(x-y) \Big). \tag{6.7}
\end{aligned}$$

## 7 Concluding remarks

Based on the Lax pair representation (3.10), (3.11) of the two-component BKP hierarchy, we obtain a bihamiltonian structure of this hierarchy. Our method in the construction of the Poisson brackets is to employ the standard  $R$ -matrix formalism, which is analogous to that for the two-dimensional Toda hierarchy [1]. In comparison with the two-dimensional Toda hierarchy, we expect that there would be an infinite-dimensional Frobenius manifold underlying the two-component BKP hierarchy.

As shown in [19], the two-component BKP hierarchy (3.10), (3.11) is reduced to the Drinfeld-Sokolov hierarchy of type  $(D_n^{(1)}, c_0)$  under the constraint  $P^{2n-2} = \hat{P}^2$ . Whether such a constraint induces a reduction of the bihamiltonian structure is unclear yet. We hope that considering this example would help to understand the relations between Frobenius manifolds of infinite and finite dimensions.

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